

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SURABA 00113 140627Z

43 40

ACTION MC-02

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FM AMCONSULATE SURABAYA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0531

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L SURABAYA 0113

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TGEN, PINR, ID, US, UR

SUBJECT: SOVIET CONSUL GENERAL ACTIVITIES DURING US RESEARCH
SHIP VISIT

REF: SURABAYA 0110

1. DURING VISIT TO SURABAYA OF SCRIPP'S OCEANOGRAPHIC RESEARCH VESSEL "R/V THOMAS WASHINGTON" (REF.), SOVIET CONSUL GENERAL KONDRATIEV TOURED SHIP WITH CONSULAR CORPS AND INDONESIAN DIGNITARIES. WHILE IBM 1800 COMPUTER WAS PROCESSING AND DISPLAYING DATA OBTAINED FROM ORBITING SATELLITE, KONDRATIEV BLUNTLY ASKED FOR PIECE OF COMPUTER PRINT-OUT PAPER, GRABBED IT FROM TABLE AND PUT IT IN HIS POCKET. WHEN THIS OCCURRED, I WAS ACOMPANYING ADMIRAL MOESTOPO FROM INDONESIAN ARMADA IN ANOTHER SECTION OF THE SHIP. SCIENTISTS PRESENT IN COMPUTER ROOM DID NOT WISH TO RISK SCENE WITH INDONESIAN DIGNITARIES PRESENT BY ASKING KONDRATIEV TO RETURN DOCUMENT. THEY BELIEVE IT WAS ROUTINE DISPLAY OF VESSEL'S POSITION, DOCKED IN SURABAYA HARBOR.

2. USUALLY ALOOF AND DIFFIDENT, KONDRATIEV WAS EXTREMELY AGGRESSIVE INTERROGATING SCIENTISTS ABOUT EQUIPMENT ABOARD SHIP, AND VISIBLY STRAINED TO HEAR REPLIES. HE GOT JUBILANTLY DRUNK DURING RECEPTION AT MY HOME THAT EVENING, SUGGESTING HE MAY BELIEVE HE SCORED INTELLIGENCE COUP. REGRET INCIDENT OCCURRED, AND HOPE IT WAS NOT SERIOUS BREACH OF SECURITY.

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PAGE 02 SURABA 00113 140627Z

HOWLAND

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